

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAN SA 03202 221836Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08  
COME-00 SY-05 MCT-01 /082 W  
-----022101 221842Z /45

P R 221721Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC VRIORITY 8563  
INXB RUESGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 5672  
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 3202

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SHUM, ES  
SUBJECT: SOL MEZA RELEASED BY FPL

REF: SAN SALVADOR 3172

1. ERNESTO SOL MEZA, KIDNAPPED ALONG WITH LUVI MENDOZA R  
NOVOA ON MAY  
14 (SAN SALVADOR 2981), WAS RELEASED BY  
HIS CAPTORS, THE POPULAR FORCES OF LIBERATION (FPL),  
DURING THE NIGHT OF JUNE 21-22. IN A COMMUNIQUE  
SENT TO VARIOUS SALVADORAN NEWSPAPERS, THE FPL  
CLAIMED CREDIT FOR THE KIDNAPPING OF SOL MEZA AND  
MENDEZ NOVOA, CODE-NAMING THE ACTION "OPERATION  
O JUSTO MEJIA AND THE POPULAR HEROES OF SAN PEDRO  
PERULAPAN." THE COMMUNIQUE STATED THAT BOTH  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAN SA 03202 221836Z

SOL MEZA AND MENDEZ NOVOA HAD BEEN HELD IN A  
"REVOLUTIONARY JAIL" UNTIL THEIR FAMILIES PAID  
A CERTAIN AMOUNT (QUANTITY NOT MENTIONED) OF  
MONEY "THAT WILL SERVE THE CAUSE OF POPULAR  
LIBERATION AND OF SOCIALISM."

2. ALTHOUGH THE COMMUNIQUE DID NOT MENTION THE

RANSOM AMOUNTS, JUNE 22 EDITION OF LA PRENSA GRAFICA CLAIMED THAT THE KIDNAPPERS OF SOL MEZA HAD ASKED FOR TWELVE MILLION COLONES (OR US \$4,800,000) FOR HIS RELEASE. A PICTURE OF SOL MEZA TAKEN BY HIS CAPTORS WITH AN FPL FLAG IN THE BACKGROUND APPEARED IN THE JUNE "5 EDITION OF EL DIARIO DE HOY.

3. THE DETAILS CONCERNING SOL MEZA'S RELEASE HAVE THUS FAR BEEN SKIMPY. SOL MEZA WILL IN ALL PROBABILITY BE LEAVING FOR THE UNITED STATES SOON, IF INDEED HE HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO. DEVINE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, PRISONERS RELEASE, TERRORISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SANS03202  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780260-1238  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** SAN SALVADOR  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780630/aaaaazwc.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** af8abf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 SAN SALVADOR 3172  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2246173  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOL MEZA RELEASED BY FPL  
**TAGS:** PORS, ES, FPL, POPULAR FORCES OF LIBERATION, (MENDOZA NOVOA, LUVI)  
**To:** STATE GUATEMALA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/af8abf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014